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May 19, 2004

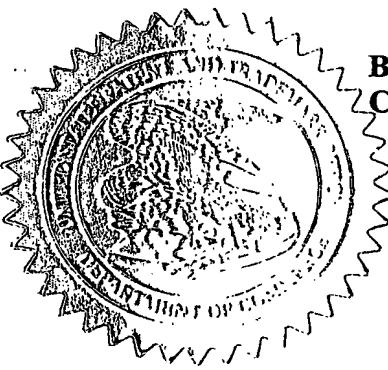
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FILING DATE.

APPLICATION NUMBER: 60/509,752

FILING DATE: *October 07, 2003*

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## PROVISIONAL APPLICATION FOR PATENT COVER SHEET

This is a request for filing a PROVISIONAL APPLICATION FOR PATENT under 37 CFR 1.53(c).

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60/509752

INVENTOR(S)		
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<input type="checkbox"/> Additional inventors are being named on the separately numbered sheets attached hereto		
TITLE OF THE INVENTION (500 characters max)		
FUNCTIONALIZED POLY(ETHYLENE GLYCOL)		
Direct all correspondence to: CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Customer Number	20350	
OR		
<input type="checkbox"/> Firm or Individual Name		
Address		
Address		
City	State	ZIP
Country	Telephone	Fax
ENCLOSED APPLICATION PARTS (check all that apply)		
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<input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s) Number of Sheets	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify)	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Application Data Sheet. See 37 CFR 1.76		
METHOD OF PAYMENT OF FILING FEES FOR THIS PROVISIONAL APPLICATION FOR PATENT		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27.		
<input type="checkbox"/> A check or money order is enclosed to cover the filing fees		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The Director is hereby authorized to charge filing fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account Number:	20-1430	FILING FEE AMOUNT (\$)
<input type="checkbox"/> Payment by credit card. Form PTO-2038 is attached.	80	
The invention was made by an agency of the United States Government or under a contract with an agency of the United States Government.		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No.		
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes, the name of the U.S. Government agency and the Government contract number are: ..		

[Page 1 of 2]

Date 10/07/03

Respectfully submitted,

SIGNATURE

TYPED or PRINTED NAME

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REGISTRATION NO. 42,837

(if appropriate)

Docket Number: 019957-018600US

TELEPHONE 415-576-0200

USE ONLY FOR FILING A PROVISIONAL APPLICATION FOR PATENT

60055414 v1

Application Data Sheet

**Application Information**

Application number::  
Filing Date:: 10/07/03  
Application Type:: Provisional  
Subject Matter:: Utility  
Suggested classification::  
Suggested Group Art Unit::  
CD-ROM or CD-R??::  
Number of CD disks::  
Number of copies of CDs::  
Sequence Submission::  
Computer Readable Form (CRF)?::  
Number of copies of CRF::  
Title:: FUNCTIONALIZED POLY(ETHYLENE GLYCOL)  
Attorney Docket Number:: 019957-018600US  
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Licensed US Govt. Agency::  
Contract or Grant Numbers One::  
Secrecy Order in Parent Appl.?:: No

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**Assignee Information**

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FEE RECORD SHEET

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PTO-1556  
(5/87)

**PROVISIONAL**

**PATENT APPLICATION**

**FUNCTIONALIZED POLY(ETHYLENE GLYCOL)**

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**AS FILED IN THE USPTO ON OCTOBER 7, 2003**

## FUNCTIONALIZED POLY(ETHYLENE GLYCOL)

### CROSS-REFERENCES TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

[0001] NOT APPLICABLE

5

### STATEMENT AS TO RIGHTS TO INVENTIONS MADE UNDER FEDERALLY SPONSORED RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

[0002] NOT APPLICABLE

10 REFERENCE TO A "SEQUENCE LISTING," A TABLE, OR A COMPUTER  
PROGRAM LISTING APPENDIX SUBMITTED ON A COMPACT DISK.

[0003] NOT APPLICABLE

### BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

15 [0004] The conjugation of the hydrophilic polymers, such as poly(ethylene glycol), abbreviated PEG, also known as poly(ethylene oxide), abbreviated PEO, to molecules and surfaces is of considerable utility in biotechnology and medicine. In its most common form, PEG is a linear polymer terminated at each end with hydroxyl groups:



20 where n typically ranges from about 3 to about 4000.

[0005] PEG species with a different group at each of the two termini are particularly useful compounds. For example, heterobifunctional PEGs are of use as cross-linking agents. Moreover, PEG molecules that are "capped" at one terminus, e.g., an alkyl group, such as 25 methoxy allow the hydroxyl terminus of the molecule to be converted into any one of a large number of reactive organic functional groups.

[0006] Random or block copolymers of ethylene oxide and propylene oxide, shown below, are closely related to PEG in their chemistry, and they can be substituted for PEG in many of its applications.



in which each R is independently H or CH<sub>3</sub>.

[0007] Poly(ethylene glycol) ("PEG") is an exemplary polymer that has been conjugated to peptides. The use of PEG to derivatize peptide therapeutics has been demonstrated to reduce the immunogenicity of the peptides and prolong the clearance time 5 from the circulation. For example, U.S. Pat. No. 4,179,337 (Davis *et al.*) concerns non-immunogenic peptides, such as enzymes and peptide hormones coupled to polyethylene glycol (PEG) or polypropylene glycol. Between 10 and 100 moles of polymer are used per mole peptide and at least 15% of the physiological activity is maintained.

[0008] WO 93/15189 (Veronese *et al.*) concerns a method to maintain the activity of 10 polyethylene glycol-modified proteolytic enzymes by linking the proteolytic enzyme to a macromolecularized inhibitor. The conjugates are intended for medical applications.

[0009] The principal mode of attachment of PEG, and its derivatives, to peptides is a non-specific bonding through a peptide amino acid residue. For example, U.S. Patent No. 4,088,538 discloses an enzymatically active polymer-enzyme conjugate of an enzyme 15 covalently bound to PEG. Similarly, U.S. Patent No. 4,496,689 discloses a covalently attached complex of  $\alpha$ -1 protease inhibitor with a polymer such as PEG or methoxypoly(ethylene glycol) ("mPEG"). Abuchowski *et al.* (*J. Biol. Chem.* 252: 3578 (1977) discloses the covalent attachment of mPEG to an amine group of bovine serum albumin. U.S. Patent No. 4,414,147 discloses a method of rendering interferon less 20 hydrophobic by conjugating it to an anhydride of a dicarboxylic acid, such as poly(ethylene succinic anhydride). PCT WO 87/00056 discloses conjugation of PEG and poly(oxyethylated) polyols to such proteins as interferon- $\beta$ , interleukin-2 and immunotoxins. EP 154,316 discloses and claims chemically modified lymphokines, such as IL-2 containing PEG bonded directly to at least one primary amino group of the lymphokine. U.S. Patent No. 25 4,055,635 discloses pharmaceutical compositions of a water-soluble complex of a proteolytic enzyme linked covalently to a polymeric substance such as a polysaccharide.

[0010] Another mode of attaching PEG to peptides is through the non-specific oxidation of glycosyl residues on a peptide. The oxidized sugar is utilized as a locus for attaching a PEG moiety to the peptide. For example M'Timkulu (WO 94/05332) discloses 30 the use of a hydrazine- or amino-PEG to add PEG to a glycoprotein. The glycosyl moieties are randomly oxidized to the corresponding aldehydes, which are subsequently coupled to the amino-PEG.

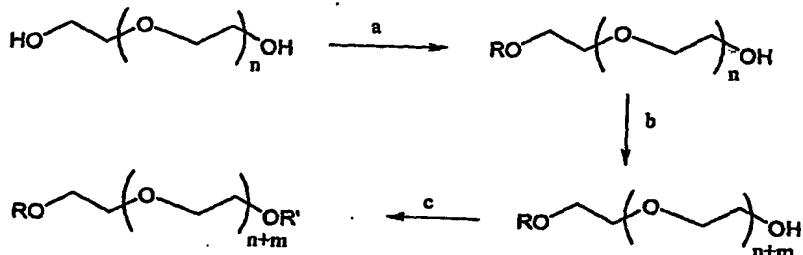
[0011] In each of the methods described above, poly(ethylene glycol) is added in a random, non-specific manner to reactive residues on a peptide backbone. For the production of therapeutic peptides, it is clearly desirable to utilize a derivatization strategy that results in the formation of a specifically labeled, readily characterizable, essentially homogeneous product.

[0012] Methods of conjugating water-soluble polymers to peptides and other species would benefit from the availability of polymer derivatives that are functionalized to allow for their controlled addition to a selected moiety. Furthermore, water-soluble polymers that are of a defined or controllable molecular size permit the molecular size of the ultimate conjugate to be engineered. To accomplish these and other goals, new routes to activated water-soluble polymers are desirable. The present invention provides such a route.

#### BRIEF SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

[0013] The present invention provides a method for the step-wise assembly of activated water-soluble polymers, particularly poly(ethylene glycol) and its structural analogues. The method provides easy access to both mono- and bi-functionalized PEG molecules.

[0014] Thus, in an exemplary embodiment, the invention provides a method of preparing a derivative of poly(ethylene glycol). The method is outlined in Scheme I:



a. R-Y / (acid or base); b. Activation, e.g., tosylation, halo-de-hydroxylation, e.g. HX or SOX<sub>2</sub> and reaction with PEG<sub>m</sub>; c. Activation (R'), e.g., with p-nitro-phenylchloroformate.

in which the indexes m and n independently represent integers from 1 to 100,000.

[0015] In step a, the starting glycol is contacted with an activated group (R-Y) that reacts with a hydroxyl moiety of the glycol. Y is generally a leaving group, allowing placement of R on one of the hydroxyl moieties of the PEG molecule. In step b, the free hydroxyl of the resulting adduct is activated by its conversion to a group such as a sulfonate ester. The activated PEG species is contacted with another PEG moiety of the same or different degree

of polymerization as the starting PEG ("PEG<sub>m</sub>"). To allow its attachment to another species, the RO-PEG<sub>(n+m)</sub> is optionally activated at the free hydroxyl moiety.

#### DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

5 [0016] In response to the need for improved methods of preparing modified water-soluble polymers, such as poly(ethylene glycol), the present invention provides methods for the chemical activation and elongation of the polymer backbone. The mono- activated PEG molecules are of use to conjugate PEG to a wide variety of species, e.g., targeting moieties, therapeutic moieties, anti-tumor drugs, cytotoxins, radioactive agents, amino acids, 10 saccharides and the like.

#### DEFINITIONS

15 [0017] The term "water-soluble" refers to moieties that have some detectable degree of solubility in water. Methods to detect and/or quantify water solubility are well known in the art. Exemplary water-soluble polymers include peptides, saccharides, poly(ethers), poly(amines), poly(carboxylic acids) and the like. An exemplary poly(ether) is poly(ethylene glycol). Poly(ethylene imine) is an exemplary polyamine, and poly(acrylic) acid is a 20 representative poly(carboxylic acid)

25 [0018] The term "targeting moiety," as used herein, refers to species that will selectively localize in a particular tissue or region of the body. The localization is mediated by specific recognition of molecular determinants, molecular size of the targeting agent or conjugate, ionic interactions, hydrophobic interactions and the like. Other mechanisms of targeting an agent to a particular tissue or region are known to those of skill in the art. Exemplary targeting moieties include antibodies, antibody fragments, transferrin, HS-glycoprotein, coagulation factors, serum proteins,  $\beta$ -glycoprotein, G-CSF, GM-CSF, M-CSF, EPO and the like.

30 [0019] As used herein, "therapeutic moiety" means any agent useful for therapy including, but not limited to, antibiotics, anti-inflammatory agents, anti-tumor drugs, cytotoxins, and radioactive agents. "Therapeutic moiety" includes prodrugs of bioactive agents, constructs in which more than one therapeutic moiety is bound to a carrier, e.g., multivalent agents. Therapeutic moiety also includes proteins and constructs that include proteins. Exemplary proteins include, but are not limited to, Erythropoietin (EPO), Granulocyte Colony

Stimulating Factor (GCSF), Granulocyte Macrophage Colony Stimulating Factor (GMCSF), Interferon (e.g., Interferon- $\alpha$ , - $\beta$ , - $\gamma$ ), Interleukin (e.g., Interleukin II), serum proteins (e.g., Factors VII, VIIa, VIII, IX, and X), Human Chorionic Gonadotropin (HCG), Follicle Stimulating Hormone (FSH) and Lutenizing Hormone (LH) and antibody fusion proteins 5 (e.g. Tumor Necrosis Factor Receptor ((TNFR)/Fc domain fusion protein)).

[0020] As used herein, "anti-tumor drug" means any agent useful to combat cancer including, but not limited to, cytotoxins and agents such as antimetabolites, alkylating agents, anthracyclines, antibiotics, antimitotic agents, procarbazine, hydroxyurea, asparaginase, corticosteroids, interferons and radioactive agents. Also encompassed within the scope of the 10 term "anti-tumor drug," are conjugates of peptides with anti-tumor activity, e.g. TNF- $\alpha$ . Conjugates include, but are not limited to those formed between a therapeutic protein and a glycoprotein of the invention. A representative conjugate is that formed between PSGL-1 and TNF- $\alpha$ .

[0021] As used herein, "a cytotoxin or cytotoxic agent" means any agent that is detrimental 15 to cells. Examples include taxol, cytochalasin B, gramicidin D, ethidium bromide, emetine, mitomycin, etoposide, tenoposide, vincristine, vinblastine, colchicin, doxorubicin, daunorubicin, dihydroxy anthracinedione, mitoxantrone, mithramycin, actinomycin D, 1-dehydrotestosterone, glucocorticoids, procaine, tetracaine, lidocaine, propranolol, and puromycin and analogs or homologs thereof. Other toxins include, for example, ricing, CC- 20 1065 and analogues, the duocarmycins. Still other toxins include diphtheria toxin, and snake venom (e.g., cobra venom).

[0022] As used herein, "a radioactive agent" includes any radioisotope that is effective in diagnosing or destroying a tumor. Examples include, but are not limited to, indium-111, cobalt-60. Additionally, naturally occurring radioactive elements such as uranium, radium, 25 and thorium, which typically represent mixtures of radioisotopes, are suitable examples of a radioactive agent. The metal ions are typically chelated with an organic chelating moiety.

[0023] Many useful chelating groups, crown ethers, cryptands and the like are known in the art and can be incorporated into the compounds of the invention (e.g. EDTA, DTPA, DOTA, NTA, HDTA, etc. and their phosphonate analogs such as DTPP, EDTP, HDTP, NTP, etc). 30 See, for example, Pitt *et al.*, "The Design of Chelating Agents for the Treatment of Iron Overload," In, INORGANIC CHEMISTRY IN BIOLOGY AND MEDICINE; Martell, Ed.; American Chemical Society, Washington, D.C., 1980, pp. 279-312; Lindoy, THE CHEMISTRY OF

MACROCYCLIC LIGAND COMPLEXES; Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, 1989; Dugas, BIOORGANIC CHEMISTRY; Springer-Verlag, New York, 1989, and references contained therein.

[0024] As used herein, the term "leaving group" refers to a portion of a substrate that is 5 cleaved from the substrate in a reaction. Leaving groups are generally recognized in the art of synthetic organic chemistry.

[0025] "Protecting group," as used herein refers to a portion of a substrate that is substantially stable under a particular reaction condition, but which is cleaved from the 10 substrate under a different reaction condition. A protecting group can also be selected such that it participates in the direct oxidation of the aromatic ring component of the compounds of the invention. For examples of useful protecting groups, *see*, for example, Greene *et al.*, PROTECTIVE GROUPS IN ORGANIC SYNTHESIS, John Wiley & Sons, New York, 1991.

[0026] Where substituent groups are specified by their conventional chemical formulae, written from left to right, they equally encompass the chemically identical substituents which 15 would result from writing the structure from right to left, *e.g.*,  $-\text{CH}_2\text{O}-$  is intended to also recite  $-\text{OCH}_2-$ ;  $-\text{NHS(O)}_2-$  is also intended to represent  $-\text{S(O)}_2\text{HN}-$ , *etc.*

[0027] The term "alkyl," by itself or as part of another substituent, means, unless otherwise stated, a straight or branched chain, or cyclic hydrocarbon radical, or combination thereof, which may be fully saturated, mono- or polyunsaturated and can include di- and multivalent 20 radicals, having the number of carbon atoms designated (*i.e.*  $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_{10}$  means one to ten carbons). Examples of saturated hydrocarbon radicals include, but are not limited to, groups such as methyl, ethyl, n-propyl, isopropyl, n-butyl, t-butyl, isobutyl, sec-butyl, cyclohexyl, (cyclohexyl)methyl, cyclopropylmethyl, homologs and isomers of, for example, n-pentyl, n-hexyl, n-heptyl, n-octyl, and the like. An unsaturated alkyl group is one having one or more 25 double bonds or triple bonds. Examples of unsaturated alkyl groups include, but are not limited to, vinyl, 2-propenyl, crotyl, 2-isopentenyl, 2-(butadienyl), 2,4-pentadienyl, 3-(1,4-pentadienyl), ethynyl, 1- and 3-propynyl, 3-butynyl, and the higher homologs and isomers. The term "alkyl," unless otherwise noted, is also meant to include those derivatives of alkyl defined in more detail below, such as "heteroalkyl." Alkyl groups, which are limited to 30 hydrocarbon groups are termed "homoalkyl".

[0028] The term "alkylene" by itself or as part of another substituent means a divalent radical derived from an alkane, as exemplified, but not limited, by  $-\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2-$ , and

further includes those groups described below as "heteroalkylene." Typically, an alkyl (or alkylene) group will have from 1 to 24 carbon atoms, with those groups having 10 or fewer carbon atoms being preferred in the present invention. A "lower alkyl" or "lower alkylene" is a shorter chain alkyl or alkylene group, generally having eight or fewer carbon atoms.

5 [0029] The terms "alkoxy," "alkylamino" and "alkylthio" (or thioalkoxy) are used in their conventional sense, and refer to those alkyl groups attached to the remainder of the molecule via an oxygen atom, an amino group, or a sulfur atom, respectively.

10 [0030] The term "heteroalkyl," by itself or in combination with another term, means, unless otherwise stated, a stable straight or branched chain, or cyclic hydrocarbon radical, or combinations thereof, consisting of the stated number of carbon atoms and at least one heteroatom selected from the group consisting of O, N, Si and S, and wherein the nitrogen and sulfur atoms may optionally be oxidized and the nitrogen heteroatom may optionally be quaternized. The heteroatom(s) O, N and S and Si may be placed at any interior position of the heteroalkyl group or at the position at which the alkyl group is attached to the remainder 15 of the molecule. Examples include, but are not limited to, -CH<sub>2</sub>-CH<sub>2</sub>-O-CH<sub>3</sub>, -CH<sub>2</sub>-CH<sub>2</sub>-NH-CH<sub>3</sub>, -CH<sub>2</sub>-CH<sub>2</sub>-N(CH<sub>3</sub>)-CH<sub>3</sub>, -CH<sub>2</sub>-S-CH<sub>2</sub>-CH<sub>3</sub>, -CH<sub>2</sub>-CH<sub>2</sub>-S(O)-CH<sub>3</sub>, -CH<sub>2</sub>-CH<sub>2</sub>-S(O)<sub>2</sub>-CH<sub>3</sub>, -CH=CH-O-CH<sub>3</sub>, -Si(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>, -CH<sub>2</sub>-CH=N-OCH<sub>3</sub>, and -CH=CH-N(CH<sub>3</sub>)-CH<sub>3</sub>. Up to two heteroatoms may be consecutive, such as, for example, -CH<sub>2</sub>-NH-OCH<sub>3</sub> and -CH<sub>2</sub>-O-Si(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>. Similarly, the term "heteroalkylene" by itself or as part of another substituent 20 means a divalent radical derived from heteroalkyl, as exemplified, but not limited by, -CH<sub>2</sub>-CH<sub>2</sub>-S-CH<sub>2</sub>-CH<sub>2</sub>- and -CH<sub>2</sub>-S-CH<sub>2</sub>-CH<sub>2</sub>-NH-CH<sub>2</sub>- For heteroalkylene groups, heteroatoms can also occupy either or both of the chain termini (e.g., alkyleneoxy, alkylenedioxy, 25 alkyleneamino, alkylenediamino, and the like). Still further, for alkylene and heteroalkylene linking groups, no orientation of the linking group is implied by the direction in which the formula of the linking group is written. For example, the formula -C(O)<sub>2</sub>R'- represents both -C(O)<sub>2</sub>R'- and -R'C(O)<sub>2</sub>-.

[0031] In general, an "acyl substituent" is also selected from the group set forth above. As used herein, the term "acyl substituent" refers to groups attached to, and fulfilling the valence of a carbonyl carbon that is either directly or indirectly attached to the polycyclic nucleus of the compounds of the present invention.

[0032] The terms "cycloalkyl" and "heterocycloalkyl", by themselves or in combination with other terms, represent, unless otherwise stated, cyclic versions of "alkyl" and

"heteroalkyl", respectively. Additionally, for heterocycloalkyl, a heteroatom can occupy the position at which the heterocycle is attached to the remainder of the molecule. Examples of cycloalkyl include, but are not limited to, cyclopentyl, cyclohexyl, 1-cyclohexenyl, 3-cyclohexenyl, cycloheptyl, and the like. Examples of heterocycloalkyl include, but are not limited to, 1-(1,2,5,6-tetrahydropyridyl), 1-piperidinyl, 2-piperidinyl, 3-piperidinyl, 4-morpholinyl, 3-morpholinyl, tetrahydrofuran-2-yl, tetrahydrofuran-3-yl, tetrahydrothien-2-yl, tetrahydrothien-3-yl, 1-piperazinyl, 2-piperazinyl, and the like.

[0033] The terms "halo" or "halogen," by themselves or as part of another substituent, mean, unless otherwise stated, a fluorine, chlorine, bromine, or iodine atom. Additionally, terms such as "haloalkyl," are meant to include monohaloalkyl and polyhaloalkyl. For example, the term "halo(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)alkyl" is meant to include, but not be limited to, trifluoromethyl, 2,2,2-trifluoroethyl, 4-chlorobutyl, 3-bromopropyl, and the like.

[0034] The term "aryl" means, unless otherwise stated, a polyunsaturated, aromatic, hydrocarbon substituent which can be a single ring or multiple rings (preferably from 1 to 3 rings) which are fused together or linked covalently. The term "heteroaryl" refers to aryl groups (or rings) that contain from one to four heteroatoms selected from N, O, and S, wherein the nitrogen and sulfur atoms are optionally oxidized, and the nitrogen atom(s) are optionally quaternized. A heteroaryl group can be attached to the remainder of the molecule through a heteroatom. Non-limiting examples of aryl and heteroaryl groups include phenyl, 1-naphthyl, 2-naphthyl, 4-biphenyl, 1-pyrrolyl, 2-pyrrolyl, 3-pyrrolyl, 3-pyrazolyl, 2-imidazolyl, 4-imidazolyl, pyrazinyl, 2-oxazolyl, 4-oxazolyl, 2-phenyl-4-oxazolyl, 5-oxazolyl, 3-isoxazolyl, 4-isoxazolyl, 5-isoxazolyl, 2-thiazolyl, 4-thiazolyl, 5-thiazolyl, 2-furyl, 3-furyl, 2-thienyl, 3-thienyl, 2-pyridyl, 3-pyridyl, 4-pyridyl, 2-pyrimidyl, 4-pyrimidyl, 5-benzothiazolyl, purinyl, 2-benzimidazolyl, 5-indolyl, 1-isoquinolyl, 5-isoquinolyl, 2-quinoxalinyl, 5-quinoxalinyl, 3-quinolyl, and 6-quinolyl. Substituents for each of the above noted aryl and heteroaryl ring systems are selected from the group of acceptable substituents described below.

[0035] For brevity, the term "aryl" when used in combination with other terms (e.g., aryloxy, arylthioxy, arylalkyl) includes both aryl and heteroaryl rings as defined above. Thus, the term "arylalkyl" is meant to include those radicals in which an aryl group is attached to an alkyl group (e.g., benzyl, phenethyl, pyridylmethyl and the like) including those alkyl groups in which a carbon atom (e.g., a methylene group) has been replaced by, for

example, an oxygen atom (e.g., phenoxyethyl, 2-pyridyloxymethyl, 3-(1-naphthoxy)propyl, and the like).

[0036] Each of the above terms (e.g., "alkyl," "heteroalkyl," "aryl" and "heteroaryl") include both substituted and unsubstituted forms of the indicated radical. Preferred substituents for each type of radical are provided below.

[0037] Substituents for the alkyl, and heteroalkyl radicals (including those groups often referred to as alkylene, alkenyl, heteroalkylene, heteroalkenyl, alkynyl, cycloalkyl, heterocycloalkyl, cycloalkenyl, and heterocycloalkenyl) are generally referred to as "alkyl substituents" and "heteroalkyl substituents," respectively, and they can be one or more of a variety of groups selected from, but not limited to: -hydrogen, -OR', =O, =NR'''', =N-OR', -NR'R'', -SR', -halogen, -SiR'R'R'', -OC(O)R', -C(O)R', -CO<sub>2</sub>R', -CONR'R'', -OC(O)NR'R'', -NR'C(O)R'', -NR''-C(O)NR'R'', -NR'C(O)<sub>2</sub>R'', -NR''-C(NR'R')=NR'''', -NR''-C(NR'R')=NR'''', -S(O)R', -S(O)<sub>2</sub>R', -S(O)<sub>2</sub>NR'R'', -NR'SO<sub>2</sub>R'', -NR''SO<sub>2</sub>NR'R'' - CN, -R' and -NO<sub>2</sub> in a number ranging from zero to (2m'+1), where m' is the total number of carbon atoms in such radical. R', R'', R''' each preferably independently refer to hydrogen, substituted or unsubstituted alkyl, substituted or unsubstituted heteroalkyl, substituted or unsubstituted aryl, (e.g., aryl substituted with 1-3 halogens, substituted or unsubstituted alkyl, alkoxy or thioalkoxy groups), substituted or unsubstituted heteroaryl and substituted or unsubstituted arylalkyl. R''' refers to hydrogen, alkyl, substituted or unsubstituted heteroalkyl, substituted or unsubstituted aryl, substituted or unsubstituted heteroaryl, substituted or unsubstituted arylalkyl, -CN, -NO<sub>2</sub> and -S(O)<sub>2</sub>R'. When a compound of the invention includes more than one R group, for example, each of the R groups is independently selected as are each R', R'', R''' and R''' groups when more than one of these groups is present. When R' and R'' are attached to the same nitrogen atom, they can be combined with the nitrogen atom to form a 5-, 6-, or 7-membered ring. For example, -NR'R'' is meant to include, but not be limited to, 1-pyrrolidinyl, 1-piperidinyl, 1-piperazinyl and 4-morpholinyl. From the above discussion of substituents, one of skill in the art will understand that the term "alkyl" is meant to include groups including carbon atoms bound to groups other than hydrogen groups, such as haloalkyl (e.g., -CF<sub>3</sub> and -CH<sub>2</sub>CF<sub>3</sub>) and acyl (e.g., -C(O)CH<sub>3</sub>, -C(O)CF<sub>3</sub>, -C(O)CH<sub>2</sub>OCH<sub>3</sub>, and the like).

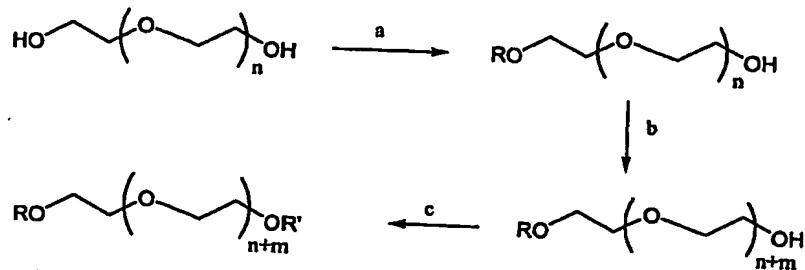
[0038] Similar to the substituents described for the alkyl radical, the aryl substituents and heteroaryl substituents are generally referred to as "aryl substituents" and "heteroaryl

substituents," respectively and are varied and selected from, for example: hydrogen, -OR', -C=NR'''NR'R'', -NR''SO<sub>2</sub>NR'R'', -NR'R'', -SR', -halogen, -SiR'R''R''', -OC(O)R', -C(O)R', -CO<sub>2</sub>R', -CONR'R'', -OC(O)NR'R'', -NR''C(O)R', -NR'''C(O)NR'R'', -NR''C(O)R'', -NR'''-C(NR'R'')=NR''', -S(O)R', -S(O)R'', -S(O)NR'R'', -NR''SO<sub>2</sub>R', -CN and -NO<sub>2</sub>, -R', -N<sub>3</sub>, -CH(Ph)<sub>2</sub>, fluoro(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)alkoxy, and fluoro(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)alkyl, in a number ranging from zero to the total number of open valences on the aromatic ring system; and where R', R'' and R''' each preferably independently refer to hydrogen, substituted or unsubstituted alkyl, substituted or unsubstituted heteroalkyl, substituted or unsubstituted aryl, (e.g., aryl substituted with 1-3 halogens, substituted or unsubstituted alkyl, alkoxy or 10 thioalkoxy groups), substituted or unsubstituted heteroaryl and substituted or unsubstituted arylalkyl. R''' refers to hydrogen, alkyl, substituted or unsubstituted heteroalkyl, substituted or unsubstituted aryl, substituted or unsubstituted heteroaryl, substituted or unsubstituted arylalkyl, -CN, -NO<sub>2</sub> and -S(O)R''. When a compound of the invention includes more than one R group, for example, each of the R groups is independently selected as are each R', R'', 15 R''' and R''' groups when more than one of these groups is present. When R' and R'' are attached to the same nitrogen atom, they can be combined with the nitrogen atom to form a 5-, 6-, or 7-membered ring. For example, -NR'R'' is meant to include, but not be limited to, 1-pyrrolidinyl, 1-piperidinyl, 1-piperazinyl and 4-morpholinyl.

[0039] Two of the aryl substituents on adjacent atoms of the aryl or heteroaryl ring may 20 optionally be replaced with a substituent of the formula -T-C(O)-(CRR')<sub>q</sub>-U-, wherein T and U are independently -NR-, -O-, -CRR'- or a single bond, and q is an integer of from 0 to 3. Alternatively, two of the substituents on adjacent atoms of the aryl or heteroaryl ring may optionally be replaced with a substituent of the formula -A-(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>r</sub>-B-, wherein A and B are independently -CRR'-, -O-, -NR-, -S-, -S(O)-, -S(O)R-, -S(O)NR'- or a single bond, and r is 25 an integer of from 1 to 4. One of the single bonds of the new ring so formed may optionally be replaced with a double bond. Alternatively, two of the substituents on adjacent atoms of the aryl or heteroaryl ring may optionally be replaced with a substituent of the formula -(CRR')<sub>s</sub>-X-(CR'R'')<sub>d</sub>-, where s and d are independently integers of from 0 to 3, and X is -O-, -NR'-, -S-, -S(O)-, -S(O)R-, or -S(O)NR'- . The substituents R, R', R'' and R''' are 30 preferably independently selected from hydrogen or substituted or unsubstituted (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkyl.

[0040] As used herein, the term "heteroatom" includes oxygen (O), nitrogen (N), sulfur (S) and silicon (Si).

[0041] In a first embodiment, the invention provides a method of preparing a derivative of poly(ethylene glycol). The method is outlined in Scheme I:



5 a. R-Y / (acid or base); b. Activation, e.g., tosylation, halo-de-hydroxylation, e.g., HX or  $\text{SOX}_2$  and reaction with  $\text{PEG}_m$ ; c. Activation (R'), e.g., with p-nitro-phenylchloroformate.

10 in which the indexes m and n independently represent integers from 1 to 100,000. R is a member selected from substituted or unsubstituted alkyl, substituted or unsubstituted heteroalkyl, substituted or unsubstituted aryl, alkylamine, protected alkylamine, or an activating group, e.g., triflate, tosylate and the like.

15 [0042] R' is selected from substituted or unsubstituted alkyl, substituted or unsubstituted heteroalkyl, substituted or unsubstituted aryl, substituted or unsubstituted heterocycloalkyl and substituted or unsubstituted heteroaryl. When R does not include a leaving group for activating the  $\text{CH}_2\text{-O}$  moiety to which it is attached, R' generally is, or includes, a leaving group.

[0043] In an exemplary embodiment, R is lower alkyl, such as methyl. In another exemplary embodiment, R' is substituted alkyl, such as p-nitrophenyl chloroformate.

20 [0044] In step a, the starting glycol is contacted with an activated group (R-Y) that reacts with a hydroxyl moiety of the glycol. Y is generally a leaving group, allowing placement of R on one of the hydroxyl moieties of the PEG molecule. In step b, the free hydroxyl of the resulting adduct is activated by its conversion to a group such as a halide, e.g., chloro or sulfonate ester, e.g., tosylate. The activated PEG species is contacted with another PEG moiety of the same or different degree of polymerization as the starting PEG ("PEG<sub>m</sub>"). To allow its attachment to another species, the RO-PEG<sub>(n+m)</sub> is optionally activated at the free hydroxyl moiety.

25 [0045] In general, the R group is attached to the PEG moiety via a species that includes a reactive functional groups. Moreover, the two poly(ethylene glycol) fragments are linked together through the use of reactive functional groups, which are typically transformed by the

linking process into a new organic functional group or unreactive species. The reactive functional group(s), is located at any position on the of the poly(ethylene glycol) moiety, but is preferably at one of the termini.

[0046] Reactive groups and classes of reactions useful in practicing the present invention

5 are generally those that are well known in the art of bioconjugate chemistry. Currently favored classes of reactions available with poly(ethylene glycol) moieties are those proceeding under relatively mild conditions. These include, but are not limited to nucleophilic substitutions (e.g., reactions of amines and alcohols with acyl halides, active esters), electrophilic substitutions (e.g., enamine reactions) and additions to carbon-carbon 10 and carbon-heteroatom multiple bonds (e.g., Michael reaction, Diels-Alder addition). These and other useful reactions are discussed in, for example, March, ADVANCED ORGANIC CHEMISTRY, 3rd Ed., John Wiley & Sons, New York, 1985; Hermanson, BIOCONJUGATE TECHNIQUES, Academic Press, San Diego, 1996; and Feeney *et al.*, MODIFICATION OF PROTEINS; Advances in Chemistry Series, Vol. 198, American Chemical Society, 15 Washington, D.C., 1982.

[0047] Useful reactive functional groups pendent from a poly(ethylene glycol) moiety include, but are not limited to:

- (a) carboxyl groups and various derivatives thereof including, but not limited to, N-hydroxysuccinimide esters, N-hydroxybenztriazole esters, acid halides, acyl imidazoles, thioesters, p-nitrophenyl esters, alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl and aromatic esters;
- (b) hydroxyl groups, which can be converted to, *e.g.*, esters, ethers, aldehydes, *etc.*
- (c) haloalkyl groups, wherein the halide can be later displaced with a nucleophilic group such as, for example, an amine, a carboxylate anion, thiol anion, carbanion, or an alkoxide ion, thereby resulting in the covalent attachment of a new group at the functional group of the halogen atom;
- (d) dienophile groups, which are capable of participating in Diels-Alder reactions such as, for example, maleimido groups;
- (e) aldehyde or ketone groups, such that subsequent derivatization is possible via formation of carbonyl derivatives such as, for example, imines, hydrazones,

semicarbazones or oximes, or via such mechanisms as Grignard addition or alkylolithium addition;

5 (f) sulfonyl halide groups for subsequent reaction with amines, for example, to form sulfonamides;

10 (g) thiol groups, which can be, for example, converted to disulfides or reacted with acyl halides;

(h) amine or sulfhydryl groups, which can be, for example, acylated, alkylated or oxidized;

15 (i) alkenes, which can undergo, for example, cycloadditions, acylation, Michael addition, etc; and

(j) epoxides, which can react with, for example, amines and hydroxyl compounds.

[0048] If necessary, a reactive functional group can be protected from participating in the reaction by the presence of a protecting group. Those of skill in the art understand how to protect a particular functional group such that it does not interfere with a chosen set of reaction conditions. For examples of useful protecting groups, see, for example, Greene *et al.*, **PROTECTIVE GROUPS IN ORGANIC SYNTHESIS**, John Wiley & Sons, New York, 1991.

[0049] Moreover, many activated derivatives of poly(ethyleneglycol) are available commercially and in the literature. It is well within the abilities of one of skill to choose, and synthesize if necessary, an appropriate activated PEG derivative for use in the method of the invention. See, Abuchowski *et al.* *Cancer Biochem. Biophys.*, 7: 175-186 (1984);

Abuchowski *et al.*, *J. Biol. Chem.*, 252: 3582-3586 (1977); Jackson *et al.*, *Anal. Biochem.*, 165: 114-127 (1987); Koide *et al.*, *Biochem Biophys. Res. Commun.*, 111: 659-667 (1983)),

tresylate (Nilsson *et al.*, *Methods Enzymol.*, 104: 56-69 (1984); Delgado *et al.*, *Biotechnol. Appl. Biochem.*, 12: 119-128 (1990)); N-hydroxysuccinimide derived active esters

25 Buckmann *et al.*, *Makromol. Chem.*, 182: 1379-1384 (1981); Joppich *et al.*, *Makromol. Chem.*, 180: 1381-1384 (1979); Abuchowski *et al.*, *Cancer Biochem. Biophys.*, 7: 175-186 (1984); Katreet *et al.* *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. U.S.A.*, 84: 1487-1491 (1987); Kitamura *et al.*,

*Cancer Res.*, 51: 4310-4315 (1991); Bocci *et al.*, *Z. Naturforsch.*, 38C: 94-99 (1983), carbonates (Zalipsky *et al.*, **POLY(ETHYLENE GLYCOL) CHEMISTRY: BIOTECHNICAL AND**

30 **BIOMEDICAL APPLICATIONS**, Harris, Ed., Plenum Press, New York, 1992, pp. 347-370; Zalipsky *et al.*, *Biotechnol. Appl. Biochem.*, 15: 100-114 (1992); Veronese *et al.*, *Appl.*

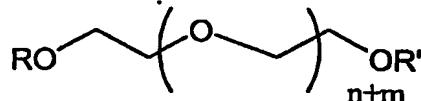
*Biochem. Biotech.*, 11: 141-152 (1985)), imidazolyl formates (Beauchamp *et al.*, *Anal. Biochem.*, 131: 25-33 (1983); Berger *et al.*, *Blood*, 71: 1641-1647 (1988)), 4-dithiopyridines (Woghiren *et al.*, *Bioconjugate Chem.*, 4: 314-318 (1993)), isocyanates (Byun *et al.*, *ASAIO Journal*, M649-M-653 (1992)) and epoxides (U.S. Pat. No. 4,806,595, issued to Noishiki *et al.*, (1989). Other linking groups include the urethane linkage between amino groups and activated PEG. See, Veronese, *et al.*, *Appl. Biochem. Biotechnol.*, 11: 141-152 (1985).

5 [0050] It is understood that the examples and embodiments described herein are for illustrative purposes only and that various modifications or changes in light thereof will be suggested to persons skilled in the art and are to be included within the spirit and purview of this application and are considered within the scope of the appended claims.

10 [0051] All publications, patents, and patent applications cited herein are hereby incorporated by reference in their entirety for all purposes.

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1                   1.    A method of preparing a poly(ethylene glycol) derivative having the  
2 formula



1           2.     The method according to claim 1, further comprising:

2           (c) contacting the product of step (b) with an activating agent, thereby  
3           converting the OH moiety to a leaving group.

1           3.     The method according to claim 1 wherein said activating agent is  
2     toluenesulfonyl chloride.

1           4.     The method according to claim 2 wherein said activating agent is p-  
2     nitrophenyl chloroformate

3

## **FUNCTIONALIZED POLY(ETHYLENE GLYCOL)**

### **ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**

The present invention provides a novel method of preparing poly(ethylene glycol) derivatives of defined molecular size and structure.

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